

What is claimed is:

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1. A non-metallic guide rail safety device for an elevator car comprising:
 - a housing;
 - a wedge disposed in said housing;
 - a friction surface disposed at one surface of said wedge and aligned for contact with a
- 5 non-metallic guide rail;
 - at least one horizontal locator; and
 - an actuator.
2. A non-metallic guide rail safety device for an elevator car as claimed in claim 1 wherein said wedge further comprises a hard material bearing surface disposed at one surface of said wedge.
3. A non-metallic guide rail safety device for an elevator car as claimed in claim 2 wherein said wedge bearing surface is selected from steel and iron.
4. A non-metallic guide rail safety device for an elevator car as claimed in claim 1 wherein said horizontal locator is a roller arrangement.

5. A non-metallic guide rail safety device for an elevator car as claimed in claim 1 wherein said horizontal locator is a slide arrangement.

6. A non-metallic guide rail safety device for an elevator car as claimed in claim 1 wherein said actuator is a governor rope.

7. A non-metallic guide rail safety device for an elevator car as claimed in claim 1 wherein said actuator is a solenoid.

8. A bidirectional non-metallic guide rail safety device for an elevator car comprising:
a housing;
a wedge disposed in said housing;
a friction material disposed at one surface of said wedge and aligned for contact with a non-metallic guide rail;
two horizontal locators; and
an actuator.

9. A non-metallic guide rail safety device for an elevator car as claimed in claim 8 wherein said wedge further comprises a hard material bearing surface disposed at two surfaces of said wedge.

10. A non-metallic guide rail safety device for an elevator car as claimed in claim 8 wherein said wedge bearing surface is selected from steel and iron.

11. A non-metallic guide rail safety device for an elevator car as claimed in claim 8 wherein said two horizontal locators each comprise a roller arrangement.

12. A non-metallic guide rail safety device for an elevator car as claimed in claim 8 wherein said two horizontal locators each comprise a slide arrangement.

13. A non-metallic guide rail safety device for an elevator car as claimed in claim 8 wherein said actuator is a governor rope.

14. A non-metallic guide rail safety device for an elevator car as claimed in claim 8 wherein ~~said actuator is a solenoid.~~